Practices by manpower exporting agencies

*2774. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN : Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased state:

(a) whether Government are aware of bogus manpower exporting agencies duping innocent job seekers abroad;

(b) if so, the steps taken to monitor these agencies; and

(c) whether Government would put in place a mechanism to have tight vigil on such agencies operating in the country to protect interests of the job seekers.

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Action has been taken under Section 24 of the Emigration Act, 1983 through the State Police Authorities, to curb the activities of the illegal/bogus recruiting agencies involved in exploitation of Indian emigrant workers seeking employment overseas. All the State/Union Territories have also being requested to instruct the Police Authorities and Deputy Commissioners/District Magistrates and sensitize them about the need to curb the illegal activities of unscrupulous agents.

(c) There are adequate provisions in the Emigration Act, 1983 to put a check on the illegal recruitment agencies. All offences under the Act, are cognizable under Section 26 of the Emigration Act. The Central Government are also taking steps to bring about coordinated action with State Governments to curb this malpractice.

Indian labourers in Dubai

†2775. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased state:

(a) whether it is a fact that non-resident Indian labourers engaged in the construction of Boorj Dubai Tower have stopped construction work in protest of low wages and misbehaviour during past days;

(b) whether Government have ordered any inquiry in this connection; and

(c) if so, the details of the information available with Government in this regard and the action proposed to be taken in the matter?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.